



(19) Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11) Publication number:

0 284 108 B1

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

(45) Date of publication of patent specification: **11.08.93** (51) Int. Cl.⁵: **H04N 9/74**

(21) Application number: **88104994.4**

(22) Date of filing: **28.03.88**

(54) **Video matte generator.**

(30) Priority: **27.03.87 US 32140**

(43) Date of publication of application:
28.09.88 Bulletin 88/39

(45) Publication of the grant of the patent:
11.08.93 Bulletin 93/32

(84) Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB NL

(56) References cited:
EP-A- 0 162 500
GB-A- 2 061 056
US-A- 4 680 621

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Description

This invention relates to a video matte generator.

Background of the Invention

In a conventional matte generator, component signals representative of a luminance component and two color difference components are generated at an operator interface and are applied to a video encoder which also receives horizontal and vertical sync signals and a continuous wave subcarrier reference signal. The encoder might be, for example, a type MC 1377 integrated circuit. The encoder combines the component signals, the sync signals and the subcarrier reference signal to generate a full field baseband video signal representing a solid color. The matte generator may be integrated within a production switcher, or it may be a stand-alone unit. In the production switcher, the matte signal is combined with an external video signal to produce an output video signal. In order for the signals to be combined satisfactorily, it is necessary that the horizontal and vertical timing of the two signals be aligned, and that if the matte signal includes a color burst, the burst of the matte signal be in phase with the burst of the external video signal. In order to adjust the phase of the burst of the matte signal relative to the burst of the second video signal, an adjustable delay network is interposed in the path of the reference subcarrier signal applied to the encoder, and the delay introduced by the delay network is adjusted so that the burst of the matte signal is in phase with the burst of the external video signal.

If multiple matte generators are included in a production switcher and each matte generator generates a matte signal which includes a color burst, it is necessary for the bursts of all the matte signals to be in phase with each other and with the burst of the external video signal. It is very time-consuming and inconvenient to adjust manually the phase of each matte generator.

Summary of the Invention

A preferred embodiment of the present invention is a matte generator for generating a video signal representative of a matte having a uniform color, comprising input means for generating signals representing three independent variables which are sufficient to characterize a color. A processor receives the input signals and derives three numerical values from the input signals and from calibration values provided to the processor, and a quadrature modulator receives a subcarrier signal and signals representing the three numerical values

and generates an encoded video signal in response thereto. The encoded video signal and a calibration signal are applied to a calibration circuit for comparing the encoded video signal and the calibration signal and providing an output signal representative of the relationship therebetween. The output signal of the calibration circuit is applied to the processor and is used to generate calibration values such that the encoded video signal is brought into predetermined relationship with the calibration signal.

By adjusting the calibration values, it becomes possible to bring the burst of the matte signal into phase with the burst of another video signal. It is also possible to eliminate the need for manual calibration of offset, gain and quadrature errors.

Brief Description of the Drawings

For a better understanding of the invention, and to show how the same may be carried into effect, reference will now be made, by way of example, to the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a production switcher incorporating a matte generator embodying the present invention,

FIGS. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are vector diagrams which are employed in explaining the operation of the matte generator.

Detailed Description

The production switcher illustrated in FIG. 1 is operable in either a PAL mode or an NTSC mode. Operation in the NTSC mode will be described first.

The production switcher incorporates a matte generator 2 and a switching network 6. The switcher has terminals 10 at which it receives external video signals and a terminal 14 at which it receives a reference composite video signal. The sync and burst of the reference video signal conform to the NTSC standard. The reference video signal is applied to a subcarrier regenerator 18 and a sync separator 22. The subcarrier regenerator generates a continuous wave reference subcarrier signal which is locked in phase to the burst of the reference video signal and is at a frequency of 3.58 MHz, and the sync separator provides horizontal and vertical sync signals. The matte generator 2 provides a full-field composite matte signal which conforms to the NTSC standard and is representative of a solid color selected by the operator of the production switcher using an operator interface 26. The matte signal and a selected external video signal are combined by the switching network 6 to produce an output video signal.

The operator interface includes three control knobs 30 which are independently adjustable. Each

control knob generates a digital signal representing the angular position of the knob. The digital signals are representative of luminance (Y), hue (θ) and saturation (M) respectively. The three digital signals are applied to the matte generator.

The composite NTSC video signal is generated from a luminance component Y and two color difference or chrominance components (R-Y) and (B-Y) by employing the two chrominance components to modulate respective continuous wave (c.w.) reference subcarrier signals which are in phase quadrature, combining the two modulated subcarrier signals, and adding the luminance component to the combined modulated subcarrier signals. If the phase of the c.w. signal that is modulated by the (B-Y) component is taken as 0° then the phase of the c.w. signal that is modulated by the (R-Y) component is 90° and the color burst of the composite signal is at a phase of 180° . The burst and chrominance vectors are illustrated in FIG. 2.

The digital signals provided by the control knobs are applied to a processor 34 and the values of Y, θ and M are written into a random access memory 38. The processor operates on the luminance, hue and saturation values in accordance with a program stored in a program memory 42 and utilizing calibration constants stored in the random access memory 38, and generates values C1 and C2. The operations that are performed on the values of Y, θ and M to generate the values C1 and C2 will be described in further detail below. The processor 34 also generates values A1 and A2. The processor provides two multiplexed digital output signals within each vertical blanking interval of the black burst signal. The successive words of the first signal represent values of A1, A2, X, X and zero, where X is an arbitrary (don't care) value, and are applied to a first digital-to-analog converter (DAC) 112 which provides at its output terminal an analog signal of which the voltage during successive clock intervals of the first signal represents the values of A1, A2, X, X and zero. The analog output signal of the DAC 112 is applied to five samples and holds 114₁ . . . 145₅, each of which comprises a switch 116, a capacitor 118 and an amplifier 120. The output voltages of the amplifiers 120₁ . . . 120₅ represent A1, A2, X, X and zero respectively. The output terminals of the amplifiers 120₁ and 120₃ are connected by way of respective switches 122₁ and 122₃ to a terminal 124₁ and similarly the output terminals of the amplifiers 120₂ and 120₄ are connected by switches 122₂ and 122₄ to a terminal 124₂. The terminals 124 are connected to a quadrature modulator 126. The switches 122₁ and 122₂ remain closed and the switches 122₃ and 122₄ remain open.

The quadrature modulator 126 comprises two modulators 131 and 132 which have modulating

inputs at which they receive the signals at the terminals 124₁ and 124₂ respectively and have carrier inputs at which they receive the reference subcarrier signal. A delay line 134 is connected in the path to the carrier inputs of the modulator 132. The delay line interposes a delay of $(90^\circ - Q)/360$ times the period of the reference subcarrier signal, with Q ideally being zero.

The output signal provided by the quadrature modulator 126 is combined with the output signal of the amplifier 120₅ in a filter and blunker 136 and the resulting signal is applied through a switch 138 to a summing amplifier 140.

The successive words of the second signal provided by the processor represent the values of C1, C2, X, X and Y and are applied to DAC 212, sample and hold 214, quadrature modulator 226 and filter and blunker 236 which operate in essentially identical fashion to the DAC 112, the sample and hold 114, the quadrature modulator 126 and the filter and blunker 136 respectively. The output signal of the filter and blunker 236 is applied through a switch 238 to the summing amplifier, which also receives the horizontal and vertical sync signals. The controller operates the switches 138 and 238 to select the modulator 126 during only the burst interval of each active line in the field of the reference video signal and to select the modulator 226 during only the active picture interval. Thus, during the blanking interval of each horizontal line, the output signal of the amplifier 140 comprises a front porch interval, followed by a horizontal sync pulse and a back porch interval.

Commercially-available quadrature modulators, such as those that are incorporated in the type MC 1377 integrated circuit, are subject to disadvantage in that they can introduce offset, gain and quadrature errors. Consequently, the output signal of the amplifier 140 is not given by the vectors (-Mb, 0) and (B-Y, R-Y), where Mb represents nominal burst amplitude, but by vectors having components (-M1A1 + 01, -M2A2 + 02) and (M1'C1 + 01', M2'C2 + 02') along axes which are not mutually perpendicular but are disposed at angles of $90^\circ - Q$ and $90^\circ - Q'$, as shown in FIG. 3. The offset, gain and quadrature errors result in the color represented by the matte signal not conforming to the desired color set by the operator interface controls. In order to correct the errors, it is possible to choose the values of A1, A2, C1 and C2 to compensate for the offset, gain and quadrature errors. The values of M1, M2, M1', M2', 01, 02, 01', 02', Q and Q' are derived by the processor 34 and are used as calibration constants in calculating suitable values of A1, A2, C1 and C2.

In order to enable the calibration constants to be derived, the matte generator 2 includes a calibration circuit 40. The calibration circuit 40 com-

prises an input section 44 which receives both the output signal of the matte generator and two D.C. calibration voltages provided by a calibration voltage source 48. The input section 44 includes switches 52, 54 and 56 for selecting the matte signal or one of the calibration voltages. A noise reduction filter 58 is connected to the switch 52. A switch 60 is used to connect the output terminal of the filter 58 to the output terminal 62 of the input section 44 either directly or by way of an A.C. blocking filter 64. The output signal provided by the input section 44 is applied to both an amplitude detector and a burst/picture sample generator 68. The amplitude detector comprises a switch 70 and a peak detector 72. Assuming that the switch 70 is closed when a first signal is applied to the amplitude detector, the peak detector provides a signal representative of the peak value of the first signal. The peak value signal is converted to digital form by an analog-to-digital converter 80 and is applied to the processor 34, which stores the digitized peak value. When a second signal is applied to the amplitude detector, the digitized peak value of the second signal is applied to the processor 34, and the difference between the two digital values is determined.

The burst/picture sample generator 68 has an output terminal which is connected to the amplitude detector to control the state of the switch 70. When the switch 52 of the input section 44 selects the output signal of the matte generator, the burst/picture sample generator causes the switch 70 to close during the burst interval or the picture interval of the matte signal, depending on which of the quadrature modulators is being calibrated.

The calibration of the modulator 126 involves calculating the values of the offset, gain and quadrature calibration constants O1, O2, M1, M2 and Q. The offset and gain calibration constants can be calculated using conventional techniques. The quadrature calibration constant can be derived by comparing the peak values that are obtained for vectors that are ideally at +45° and -45° with reference to the (B-Y) axis and adjusting the value of Q until the peak values are equal.

It is preferred, but not essential, that the offset and gain calibration constants be calculated before the quadrature calibration constant is calculated, in order to avoid unnecessary iterations.

The values of O1, O2, M1, M2 and Q are used to determine the values of A1 and A2 such that the resultant of the vector having the components (-M1A1 + O1, -M2A2 + O2) at an angle of 90° - Q is identical to the vectors having the components (-Mb, 0) at 90°, as shown in FIG. 4.

The values of O1', O2', M1', M2' and Q' for calibrating the modulator 226 are derived in similar fashion.

When proper offset, gain and quadrature calibration constants have been calculated, the matte signal provided by the matte generator represents the solid color selected by the operator.

- 5 In order to combine a matte signal having a color burst with an external video signal, it is necessary that the burst of the matte signal be in phase with the burst of the external video signal. However, the phase of the burst of the matte signal is determined by the phase of the reference sub-carrier signal and is not necessarily the same as that of the burst of the external video signal. In FIG. 5(a), the burst and the chromaticity component of the matte signal are illustrated by the vectors 82 and 84, while the vector 86 represents the burst of the external video signal. It is necessary to effectively rotate the vectors 82 and 84 through a phase offset angle P so that they remain in the same angular relationship but the vector 82 coincides with the vector 86, as shown in FIG. 5(b). The matte signal may be adjusted to bring its burst into phase with the burst of the external video signal manually, with the aid of a vector monitor, but it is preferred that the adjustment be accomplished automatically, by use of a phase detector 88. One method by which phase calibration may be carried out automatically is described in document US-A-4 769 692, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein.
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- In the PAL system, the phase relationship between the R-Y chrominance component and burst changes on alternate lines, and accordingly the chromaticity information in the video signal can be represented by a vector having the components (R-Y, B-Y) or a vector having the components (-[R-Y], B-Y) depending on whether the line is odd-numbered or even-numbered. The chromaticity information is then represented on a vector monitor as two vectors which are symmetrically disposed about the B-Y axis, as shown in FIG. 6. If the phase offset P is not an integral multiple of 90°, the components that are necessary to provide the appropriate chromaticity vector on odd-numbered lines are different from those required to produce the vector required on even-numbered lines. Accordingly, in the PAL mode of operation the successive words in the second output signal of the processor represent the values of C1, C2, C3, C4 and Y and the analog output voltages of the amplifiers represent C1, C2, C3, C4 and Y. The switches 220₁ and 220₂ are closed on odd-numbered lines and the switches 220₃ and 220₄ are closed on even-numbered lines. It will be understood that if the modulators were ideal, the output signal of the amplifier 134 would be a full-field baseband composite signal which conforms to the PAL standard and represents a matte of uniform color. In the PAL system, the subcarrier frequency

is 4.43 MHz.

In order to calibrate the modulators for operation in the PAL mode, it is necessary to compute four offset calibration constants O1, O2, O3 and O4. In computing the values of O2 and O4, the reference subcarrier is inverted in phase with respect to its phase when the constants O1 and O3 are computed. Also, it is necessary to derive two values of the phase offset angle P, for odd-numbered and even-numbered lines respectively.

It will be appreciated that the present invention is not restricted to the particular embodiment that has been described, and that variations may be made therein without departing from the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims and equivalents thereof. For example, although use of two quadrature modulators 126 and 136, and associated input and output circuits, has been described, a single quadrature modulator could be used instead if it were switched to receive the outputs of the sample and holds 114 during the horizontal blanking interval and the outputs of the sample and holds 214 during the active picture interval. Also, in some cases it may not be necessary for the matte signal to include a color burst, and in such a case the DAC 112, sample and hold 114, modulator 126 and filter and blunker 136 would not be required, and it would only be necessary to calibrate the modulator 226 by reference to the chromaticity information in the picture interval. In this case, the burst/picture sample generator 68 would close the switch 70 during the picture interval instead of the burst interval, because the burst would be absent. Even if the matte signal did not include a color burst, it would be necessary that the modulation axes of the matte signal be aligned with those of the external video signal in order to ensure that the phase relationship between the matte signal and the burst of the external video signal defines a color which lies inside the boundary of valid NTSC color space.

Claims

1. A matte generator for generating a video signal representative of a matte having a uniform color, comprising:
input means for generating component signals representing three independent variables that are sufficient to characterize a color,
modulator means for receiving the component signals and a reference subcarrier signal and generating an encoded video signal in response thereto,
calibrator means for receiving the encoded video signal and providing an output signal representative of the relationship between the value of a parameter of the encoded video

- signal and a previously-determined value, and
feedback means for applying the output signal to the input means as a control signal for adjusting the component signals in a manner such that the value of said parameter of the encoded video signal is brought into a predetermined relationship with said previously-determined value.
2. A matte generator according to claim 1, wherein the input means comprise input terminals for receiving signals representative of the luminance, hue and saturation of the selected color, and the component signals comprise a luminance component signal and two chrominance component signals, the two chrominance component signals each having a value representative of the difference between the luminance of a primary color component of the selected color and the luminance of the selected color.
 3. A matte generator according to claim 1, wherein the component signals are a luminance component signal and two chrominance component signals and the modulator means comprise at least one quadrature modulator for receiving the chrominance component signals and the reference subcarrier signal and generating an encoded chrominance signal in response thereto, and means for combining the luminance component signal with the encoded chrominance signal to generate the encoded video signal.
 4. A matte generator according to claim 3, wherein the input means comprise a processor for receiving input signals representative of the luminance, hue and saturation of the selected color and carrying out mathematical operations upon the values of the luminance, hue and saturation to generate the luminance component signal and the chrominance component signals.
 5. A matte generator according to claim 4, wherein the processor means are operative to compensate for offset, gain and quadrature errors introduced by the modulator means.
 6. A matte generator according to claim 5, wherein the encoded video signal includes a burst at subcarrier frequency, and the processor means are operative to adjust the phase of the burst.
 7. A method of generating a video signal representative of a matte having a uniform color,

comprising:

generating chrominance component signals representing the chrominance of a selected color and a luminance component signal representing the luminance of the selected color,

combining the component signals and a reference subcarrier signal to provide an encoded video signal in response thereto,

measuring the relationship between the value of a parameter of the encoded video signal and a previously-determined value of that parameter, and

employing the measured value of the relationship to adjust at least one of the chrominance component signals in a manner such that the value of said parameter of the encoded video signal is brought into a predetermined relationship with said previously-determined value.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein each chrominance component signal has a magnitude which is of the form $MA + O$, where A represents the difference between the luminance of a primary color component of the selected color and the luminance of the selected color and O and M are constants, and the calibration step comprises determining the values of O and M.

9. A method according to claim 7, wherein the first-mentioned video signal includes a color burst, said parameter of the first-mentioned video signal is the phase of the color burst, and the previously-determined value of said parameter is the phase of the color burst of a second video signal.

Patentansprüche

1. Ein Maskengenerator zum Erzeugen eines Videosignals repräsentativ für eine Maske mit einer einfarbigen Farbe, die folgendes umfaßt:

eine Eingangseinrichtung zum Erzeugen von Teilsignalen, die drei einzelne Variablen darstellen, die zum Kennzeichnen einer Farbe ausreichend sind,

eine Modulatoreinrichtung zum Empfangen der Teilsignale und eines Bezugsschwingersignals und zum Erzeugen eines codierten Videosignals als Reaktion dazu,

eine Kalibriereinrichtung zum Empfangen des codierten Videosignals und zum Bereitstellen eines Ausgangssignals, das repräsentativ ist für die Beziehung zwischen dem Wert eines Parameters des codierten Videosignals und einem vorher festgelegten Wertes, und

5 eine Rückkopplungseinrichtung zum Anlegen des Ausgangssignals an die Eingangseinrichtung als ein Steuersignal zum Einstellen des Teilsignals in einer solchen Art und Weise, daß der Wert des genannten Parameters des codierten Videosignals in eine vorherbestimmte Beziehung mit den genannten vorher festgelegten Wert gebracht wird.

10 2. Ein Maskengenerator nach Anspruch 1, bei welchem die Eingangseinrichtung Eingangsanschlüsse umfaßt zum Empfangen von Signalen, die für die Leuchtdichte, den Farnton und die Sättigung der ausgewählten Farbe repräsentativ sind, und die Teilsignale umfassen ein Leuchtdichteteilsignal und zwei Chromianzteilsignale, wobei jedes der zwei Chromianzteilsignale einen Wert besitzt, der repräsentativ ist für den Unterschied zwischen der Leuchtdichte eines Primärfarbenteiles der ausgewählten Farbe und der Leuchtdichte der ausgewählten Farbe.

15 3. Ein Maskengenerator nach Anspruch 1, bei welchem die Teilsignale ein Leuchtdichteteilsignal und zwei Chromianzteilsignale sind und die Modulatoreinrichtung umfaßt wenigstens einen Quadraturmodulator zum Empfangen der Chromianzteilsignale und des Bezugsschwingersignals und zum Erzeugen eines codierten Chromianzsignals als Reaktion dazu und eine Vorrichtung zum Kombinieren des Leuchtdichteteilsignals mit dem codierten Chromianzsignal zum Erzeugen des codierten Videosignals.

20 4. Ein Maskengenerator nach Anspruch 3, bei welchem die Eingangseinrichtung einen Prozessor zum Empfangen von Eingangssignalen umfaßt, welche für die Leuchtdichte, den Farnton und die Sättigung der ausgewählten Farbe repräsentativ sind und zum Durchführen von mathematischen Ausführungen bei den Werten der Leuchtdichte, des Farbtons und der Sättigung, um das Leuchtdichteteilsignal und die Chromianzteilsignale zu erzeugen.

25 5. Ein Maskengenerator nach Anspruch 4, bei welchem die Prozessoreinrichtung betriebsfähig ist, den Versatz, die Verstärkung und Quadraturfehler, die von der Modulatoreinrichtung eingeführt wurden, auszugleichen.

30 6. Ein Maskengenerator nach Anspruch 5, bei welchem das codierte Videosignal einen Burst bei einer Zwischenschwingerfrequenz enthält und die Prozessoreinrichtung betriebsfähig ist, die Phase des Burst einzustellen.

7. Ein Erzeugungsverfahren eines Videosignals, das repräsentativ ist für eine Maske mit einer einfarbigen Farbe, das folgendes umfaßt:
- das Erzeugen von Chrominannteilsignalen, welche die Chrominanz einer ausgewählten Farbe darstellen und eines Leuchtdichteteilsignalen, welches die Leuchtdichte der ausgewählten Farbe darstellt,
 - das Kombinieren der Teilsignale und eines Bezugswischträgersignals zum Bereitstellen eines codierten Videosignals als Reaktion dazu,
 - das Messen der Beziehung zwischen dem Wert eines Parameters des codierten Videosignals und einem vorher festgelegten Wert dieses Parameters, und
 - das Verwenden des gemessenen Wertes der Beziehung zum Einstellen wenigstens eines der Chrominannteilsignale in einer solchen Art und Weise, daß der Wert des genannten Parameters des codierten Videosignals in eine vorherbestimmte Beziehung mit den genannten, vorher festgelegten Wert gebracht wird.
8. Ein Verfahren nach Anspruch 7, bei welchem jedes Chrominannteilssignal eine Größe besitzt, welche in der Form $MA + O$ vorliegt, wobei A den Unterschied zwischen der Leuchtdichte eines Primärfarbenteiles der ausgewählten Farbe und der Leuchtdichte der ausgewählten Farbe darstellt und O und M Konstanten sind und der Kalibrierschritt das Festlegen der Werte O und M umfaßt.
9. Ein Verfahren nach Anspruch 7, bei welchem das erste angeführte Videosignal einen Burst enthält, wobei der genannte Parameter des ersten angeführten Videosignals die Phase des Burst ist und der vorher festgelegten Wert des genannten Parameters die Phase des Burst eines zweiten Videosignales ist.
10. Ein Erzeugungsverfahren eines Videosignals, das repräsentativ ist für eine Maske mit einer einfarbigen Farbe, das folgendes umfaßt:
- das Erzeugen von Chrominannteilsignalen, welche die Chrominanz einer ausgewählten Farbe darstellen und eines Leuchtdichteteilsignalen, welches die Leuchtdichte der ausgewählten Farbe darstellt,
 - das Kombinieren der Teilsignale und eines Bezugswischträgersignals zum Bereitstellen eines codierten Videosignals als Reaktion dazu,
 - das Messen der Beziehung zwischen dem Wert eines Parameters des codierten Videosignals und einem vorher festgelegten Wert dieses Parameters, und
 - das Verwenden des gemessenen Wertes der Beziehung zum Einstellen wenigstens eines der Chrominannteilsignale in einer solchen Art und Weise, daß der Wert des genannten Parameters des codierten Videosignals in eine vorherbestimmte Beziehung mit den genannten, vorher festgelegten Wert gebracht wird.
11. Générateur de trame pour engendrer un signal vidéo représentant une trame ayant une couleur uniforme, comprenant :
- un moyen d'entrée pour engendrer des signaux composants représentant trois variables indépendantes qui suffisent pour caractériser une couleur,
 - un moyen modulateur pour recevoir les signaux composants et un signal de sous-porteuse de référence et pour engendrer un signal vidéo codé en réponse à ceux-ci,
 - un moyen d'étalonnage pour recevoir le signal vidéo codé et pour fournir un signal de sortie représentant la relation qui existe entre la valeur d'un paramètre du signal vidéo codé et une valeur déterminée précédemment, et
 - un moyen de réaction pour appliquer le signal de sortie au moyen d'entrée comme signal de commande afin de régler les signaux composants de telle manière que la valeur dudit paramètre du signal vidéo codé est mise en relation prédéterminée avec ladite valeur déterminée précédemment.
12. Générateur de trame selon la revendication 1, dans lequel le moyen d'entrée comprend des bornes d'entrée pour recevoir des signaux représentant la luminance, la teinte et la saturation de la couleur sélectionnée, et les signaux composants comprennent un signal composant de luminance et deux signaux composants de chrominance, les deux signaux composants de chrominance ayant chacun une valeur représentant la différence entre la luminance d'une composante de couleur primaire de la couleur sélectionnée et la luminance de la couleur sélectionnée.
13. Générateur de trame selon la revendication 1, dans lequel les signaux composants sont un signal composant de luminance et deux signaux composants de chrominance et le moyen modulateur comprend au moins un modulateur en quadrature pour recevoir les signaux composants de chrominance et le signal de sous-porteuse de référence et pour engendrer un signal de chrominance codé en réponse à ceux-ci, et un moyen pour combiner le signal composant de luminance avec le signal de chrominance codé afin d'engendrer le signal vidéo codé.
14. Générateur de trame selon la revendication 3, dans lequel le moyen d'entrée comprend un processeur pour recevoir les signaux d'entrée représentant la luminance, la teinte et la saturation de la couleur sélectionnée et pour exécuter des opérations mathématiques sur les valeurs de la luminance, de la teinte et de la saturation afin d'engendrer le signal composant de luminance et les signaux composants de chrominance.
15. Générateur de trame selon la revendication 4, dans lequel le moyen à processeur est actif pour compenser les erreurs de décalage, de gain et de quadrature introduites par le moyen modulateur.
16. Générateur de trame selon la revendication 5, dans lequel le signal vidéo codé comprend une salve à la fréquence de la sous-porteuse,

Revendications

1. Générateur de trame pour engendrer un signal vidéo représentant une trame ayant une couleur uniforme, comprenant :
 - 45 un moyen d'entrée pour engendrer des signaux composants représentant trois variables indépendantes qui suffisent pour caractériser une couleur,
 - 50 un moyen modulateur pour recevoir les signaux composants et un signal de sous-porteuse de référence et pour engendrer un signal vidéo codé en réponse à ceux-ci,
 - 55 un moyen d'étalonnage pour recevoir le signal vidéo codé et pour fournir un signal de sortie représentant la relation qui existe entre
2. Générateur de trame pour engendrer un signal vidéo représentant une trame ayant une couleur uniforme, comprenant :
 - 45 un moyen d'entrée pour engendrer des signaux composants représentant trois variables indépendantes qui suffisent pour caractériser une couleur,
 - 50 un moyen modulateur pour recevoir les signaux composants et un signal de sous-porteuse de référence et pour engendrer un signal vidéo codé en réponse à ceux-ci,
 - 55 un moyen d'étalonnage pour recevoir le signal vidéo codé et pour fournir un signal de sortie représentant la relation qui existe entre

et le moyen à processeur est actif pour régler la phase de la salve.

7. Procédé pour engendrer un signal vidéo représentant une trame ayant une couleur uniforme, consistant à :
 - engendrer des signaux composants de chrominance représentant la chrominance d'une couleur sélectionnée et un signal composant de luminance représentant la luminance de la couleur sélectionnée, 5
 - combiner les signaux composants et un signal de sous-porteuse de référence pour fournir un signal vidéo codé en réponse à ceux-ci, 10
 - mesurer la relation qui existe entre la valeur d'un paramètre du signal vidéo codé et une valeur de ce paramètre déterminée précédemment, et à 15
 - utiliser la valeur mesurée de la relation pour régler au moins un des signaux composants de chrominance de telle manière que la valeur dudit paramètre du signal vidéo codé est mise en relation prédéterminée avec ladite valeur déterminée précédemment. 20
8. Procédé selon la revendication 7, dans lequel chaque signal composant de chrominance a une amplitude qui est de la forme $MA + O$, où A représente la différence entre la luminance d'une composante de couleur primaire de la couleur sélectionnée et la luminance de la couleur sélectionnée et O et M sont des constantes, et l'étape d'étalonnage consiste à déterminer les valeurs de O et M. 25
9. Procédé selon la revendication 7, dans lequel le signal vidéo mentionné en premier comprend une salve de chrominance, ledit paramètre du signal vidéo mentionné en premier est la phase de la salve de chrominance, et la valeur dudit paramètre déterminée précédemment est la phase de la salve de chrominance d'un second signal vidéo. 30

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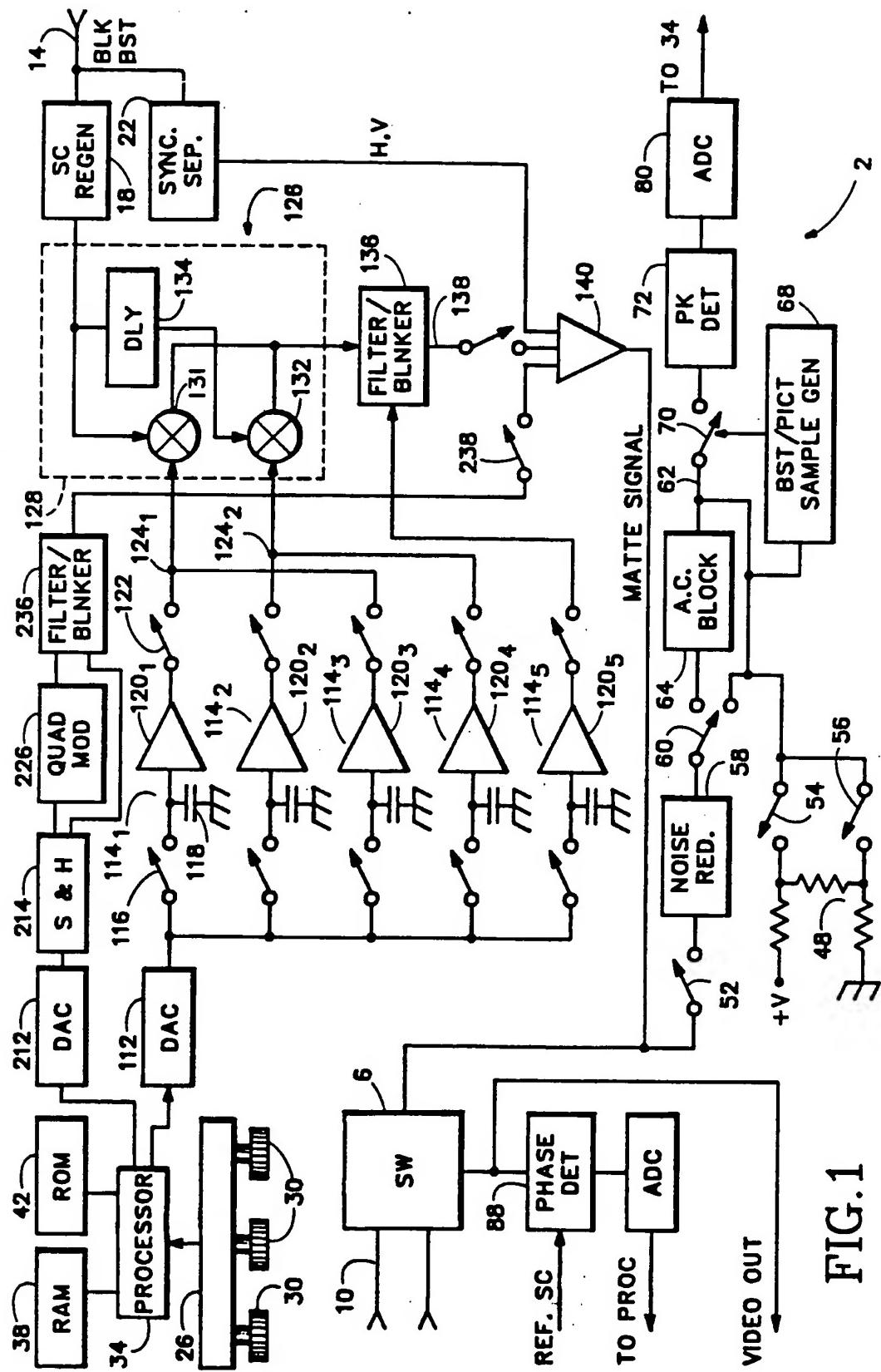


FIG. 1

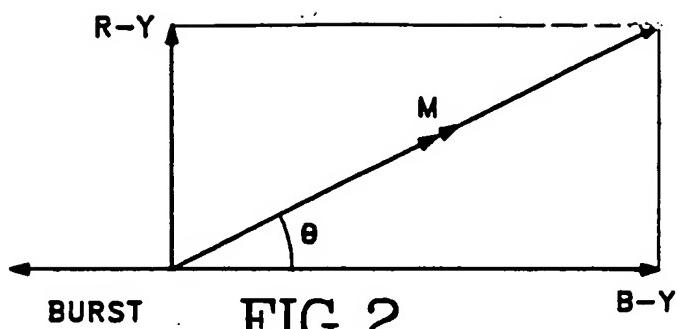


FIG. 2

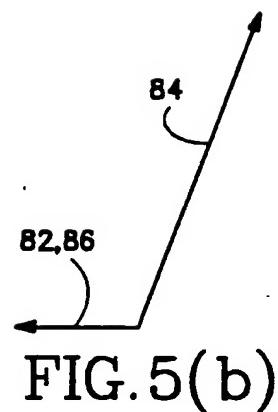


FIG. 5(b)

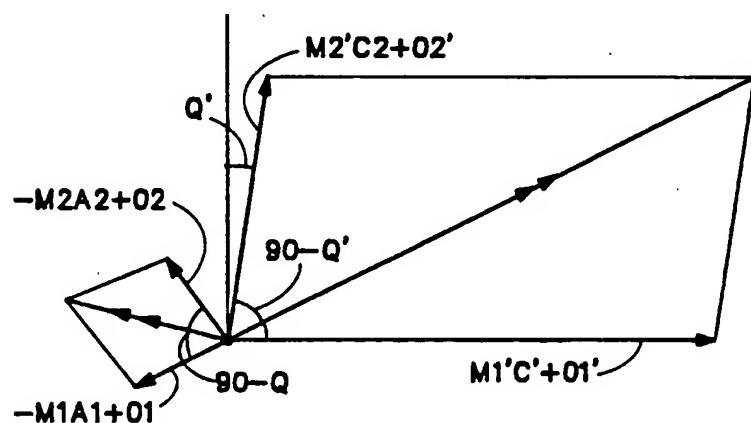


FIG. 3

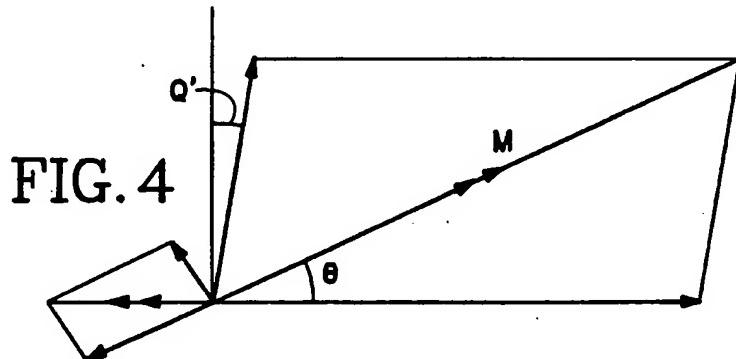


FIG. 4

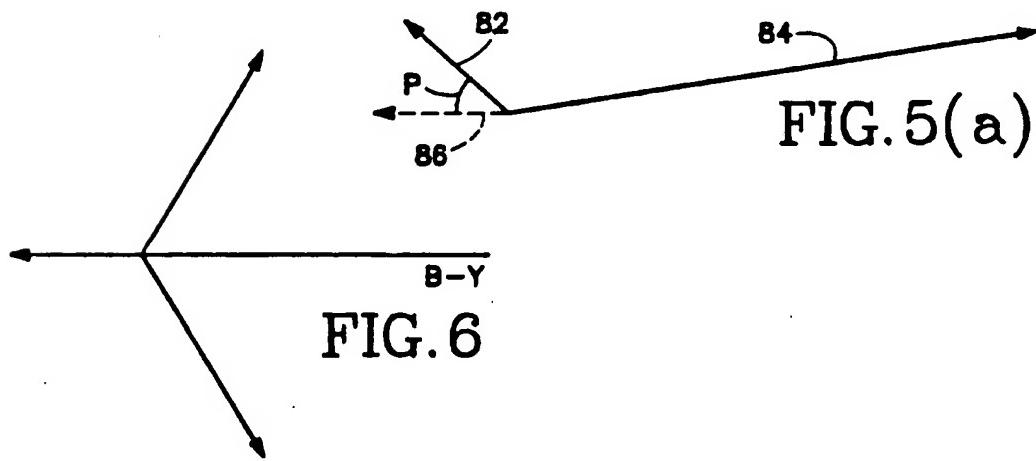


FIG. 5(a)

FIG. 6